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MILLIONAIRE JEWS DRIVEN FROM SIBERIA

Will Make Their Homes on the Pacific Coast.

The Latest Ukase of the Czar, Effective on Friday,

Will Banish Twenty-two Thousand People from Russia,

Whose Only Crime, According to a Patriot Priest, is That They Are Successful and Superior.

The San Francisco Chronicle says: "Twenty-two thousand Russian Jews are to be exiled. The czar has issued a ukase expelling every wealthy Hebrew from Siberia. The larger proportion of these exiles will come to the Pacific coast. I have the information direct from Russian sources. It is news to western nations, for the fact has not been made public in Paris, London or New York. The order goes into effect Oct. 1, according to the Russian calendar. This would be Oct. 13 among the nations which, recently, changed the time. There are over 4,000,000 people in Siberia. Of these more than 22,000 are Jews. The poorer Jews are not affected by the ukase. It applies to the wealthy alone. Some of those who will shortly be exiled are millionaires. I know that one Jew in Irkutsk is worth £10,000,000. The persecutions of Hebrew subjects in the Russian empire is an epidemic like the cholera or the grippe. The czar and the orthodox Russians are afflicted with an attack of Judenhass. There are more than 100,000,000 inhabitants of the Russian empire, a great majority of whom have run Jew mad."

This was the startling statement which A. Honcharenko made to a Chronicle reporter at its home in the little back of Portsmouth square yesterday evening.

Agrippus Honcharenko is known to all Russian exiles as a patriot and martyr, and many a refugee who has escaped from the terrors of Siberia has found in the little hermitage perched on the southern of the Contra Costa range for shelter and such other aid as lay within the power of its occupants.

"First of all, I wish to say that I am not a Jew," said Agrippus Honcharenko. "I have no Hebrew blood in my veins, so that any favorable words which I may speak for this people cannot be ascribed to partiality. What I wish to say emphatically is that the Russian Jew is far superior to the orthodox Russian. He is more intelligent, more refined and more humane. The pure Russian is a brute and just as the a in life he hates the Jew because the latter is successful. There is no reason for the hatred.

"The Jews who will come to this country by reason of the ukase of expulsion will not prove a burden. They are not poor. They have abundant means. A Jew whom I met in San Francisco recently is a great importer and a bonanza will follow their coming. They know the resources of Siberia. They know its vast undeveloped possibilities. They will come with ample means to invest. The result will be a great branching out in trade. You will see a Russian-American transpacific line of steamers as one of the results, and the Jewish capital forced out of Siberia will enrich San Francisco. Americans may regard these ideas as visionary. They are not. The people of California do not realize the possibilities which are presented by their own resources. Siberia, for instance, is looked upon as a sort of frozen desert. Few are aware that it is enormously rich in platinum and silver. Fewer still are aware that Russia realized from a load of ore purchased in Kamchatka for a few hundred dollars and shipped to San Francisco was $100,000.

"It may seem strange to those unaware of the conditions which exist under the rule of the czar that a Jew, who is subjected to such like in his domestic organization, great companies to foster trade relations with Russian towns, but the anomaly is imaginary only. Russian officials will grant any sort of a concession for a consideration.

Mr. Honcharenko, in speaking of the hostility manifested toward any Russian subjects not of the state faith, referred to the removal of the capital of Siberia from Irkutsk to Blagovieschensk on the Amur.

"Irkutsk was the seat of the church of state for Siberia until 1860. Then it was found that the Roman Catholic church had made such progress that all the citizens of the city a majority acknowledged Rome as the source of their religion. This was a great disappointment to the imperial authorities. Irkutsk had been looked upon as a holy city, made sacred by the blood of its martyrs. Some of the fanatical adherents from the state church had even gone so far as to hold that a new Russian Christ would be born in Irkutsk. This belief was so strong that Irkutsk was pathetic, not Russian, in faith, the capital was hastily removed."

Mr. Honcharenko is a native of Kherson, southern Russia, and is thoroughly familiar with all portions of the empire. He is himself an exile, and has suffered attacks even in this country from emissaries of the czar.

"I was born in Russia," said he, "but I am not of Russian blood. I am a Cossack. The Cossacks are of Persian extraction. You will find a record of the Herodotus how a band of the great Persian army, under Darius, after being defeated in the campaign against Greece, settled in the north in what is now southern Russia and intermarried with the natives. The Cossacks are their descendants and they have all the characteristics which Herodotus endowed their ancestors with in his descriptions written so many hundred years ago—high cheek bones, dark eyes and a peculiar shape of skull. All of these are noticeable to-day. And a trait of Russian he is ignorant, and a trait of nature. He is sincere. He lives with his pigs and his cows in the same house. He is not a Jew. The Jews of Siberia date back from the days of the Empress Elizabeth, when they were first taken there. Go where you find the Jew in Siberia and you will see wealth and refined surroundings. Where there are no Jews you find stagnation in business and a superstitious peasantry.

"The Jews carried civilization with them in their enforced exile to Siberia. That country will lose by the edicts of the czar's government driving them from the land. Spain drove out the Jews and never recovered from the commercial loss. Look at Spain to-day. See the difference between Spain and Russia. Still it is true that a Jew in business in Russia sometimes takes advantage of the necessities of the man with Christian name. It is equally true that Christians do likewise. It is the drunken lout that drives which so many Russians lose their pennies of this. It is no uncommon thing for a priest of the Russian church to go after a public house bill, pay it by a Jew and spend the night in drinking and enjoying himself. If he owes a debt he gives the Jew a mortgage on his church by way of security, but he does, of course, no right to do this, but he does.

"When the priests desire a new tenement they make a sort of roundup of the Jews, just as cattle are rounded up in the western territories. They are allowed a certain sum, a ruble, for instance, for each conversion. If they can get two Jews together and can drive them into the water, the priest will stand on the bank of a river or lake and blasphemously pronounce the words of some Hebrew, holding the cross and frightening them. Then he collects his rubles from the government for so many conversions.

"On the island of Sachalien there are many beautiful little cities, established by the Jews, with their theatres, casinos and free restaurants. If were not for the Jews those same cities would be miserable stagnant and struggling villages."

Mr. Honcharenko believes that the advance guard of the exiles will begin to reach this coast shortly, and that the 22,000 to be expelled very soon will journey westward across Siberia and Russia to a home in western Europe or America. Honcharenko is bitter in his denunciation of the czar. She declared that half of Russia is kept on the verge of famine because of the czar, and that no absolute monarchy could ever be maintained if the people were allowed to become educated and prosperous.

She states that the Russian exiles know that the full text of the extradition treaty between the United States and Russia has not been published. She declares that there are points which allows the czar to demand the authority to seize the persons and private documents on the ship of any refugee, and to send them to Russia for use of any kind.

Millionaire Jews Driven From Siberia

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